



[17306/101]

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
GROUP ART UNIT 3652**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 19 2004**

**GROUP 3600**

Applicant(s) : George Nelson BLISS et al.  
Serial No. : 09/849,006  
Filed : May 4, 2001  
For : APPARATUS FOR RELEASING ITEMS WITHIN A  
          CONFINED SPACE  
Examiner : Paul T. Chin  
Art Unit : 3652  
Confirmation No. : 1810

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Date: March 12, 2004 Reg. No. 42,194

Signature: Clifford A. Ulrich

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**S I R:**

In response to the Final Office Action of October 3, 2003, please  
amend the above-referenced application without prejudice as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims,  
which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.